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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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Honorable David Pryor United States Senate Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Pryor:

This is in reply to your letter of February 3, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Nick Trubov, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the <u>Notice</u> reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u>, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the <u>Notice</u> that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Trubov is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

No. of Copies rec'd

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the <u>Notice</u>, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u> are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely

Ralph A. Haller

Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper
Incoming correspondence

cc:

Chief, PRBureau Chief, LM&MDivison Docket Files, Room 222 P&P Branch File (Pink)

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LETTER REPORT

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DAVID PRYOR ARKANSAS

Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-2353

> ARKANSAS OFFICE: 3030 FEDERAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201 (501) 324-6336

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0402

February 3, 1993

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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND
FORESTRY
FINANCE
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Federal Communications Commission Office of Legislative Affairs 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir or Madame:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of correspondence I have recently received from a constituent who has asked for my assistance.

This is a matter which I think can most appropriately be addressed by someone from your agency. I would appreciate it if I could receive at your earliest convenience a complete response to the points covered in this communication. Hopefully, your reply will enable me to provide a factual and informative answer to my constituent.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please mark your reply, along with return of the enclosure, to the attention of Staci Stockburger of my staff.

Sincerely

David Pryor

DP/mss Enclosure

18 January 1993

JAN 2 2 1993

THE HONORABLE DAVID PRYOR UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator,

It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a massive frequency restructuring referred to as

PR Docket 92-235

which would have consequences to the public and to myself which would be UNDESIREABLE.

The proposal would create commercial user frequencies on bands near enough to those used by model aircraft transmitters to make those frequencies unusable for model aircraft use safely.

I have five model aircraft radios ranging in price from \$300.00 to over \$1000.00 that would be rendered obsolete by this proposed change. Alternatively, the continued use of these radio transmitters in the new proposed restructuring would conceivably cause quite a bit of danger to the safety of the public in general. Model aircraft weigh as little as two pounds to as much as fifty five pounds and fly at speeds from ten miles per hour to as much as one hundred and sixty miles per hour. At these speeds and weights these models are capable of causing serious damage if interference with radio contact from their control transmitters is interfered with.

Not only do I derive quite a bit of pleasure from the operation of model aircraft, I also enjoy teaching young people the safe and proper use of this type of sport aviation. My students and I are counting on you to intervene on our behalf before the FFC regarding the defeat of this proposal.

Respectully submitted,

Nick Trubov, Secretary

Flightmasters Model Airplane Club Inc.

P.O. Box 10901

Fort Smith. AR 72917-0901

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